

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following communication is in response to the Board Decision reversing the Examiner filed 9/15/2009.

Status of the Claims

2. Claims 1-17 are currently pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-17 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitations of the independent claims as indicated in the BPAI decision dated 9/15/2009..

Regarding claim 17, the means for issuing a call to bidder agents, means for receiving said bids, means for selecting a best bid, and means for maintaining cached bids are interpreted as software running on a computer performing the steps.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elda Milef whose telephone number is (571)272-8124. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell can be reached on (571)272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Elda Milef
Examiner
Art Unit 3694

/James P Trammell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3694